



Page 2: Meet Lambda's new Assistant Editor

Page 2: New Library Hours

Page 3: Columns Aplenty!



Page 4: Local Musicians Pick Their Top 5 Albums of 2009

Page 5: The Top 5 Local and Sports Stories of 2009 Counted Down



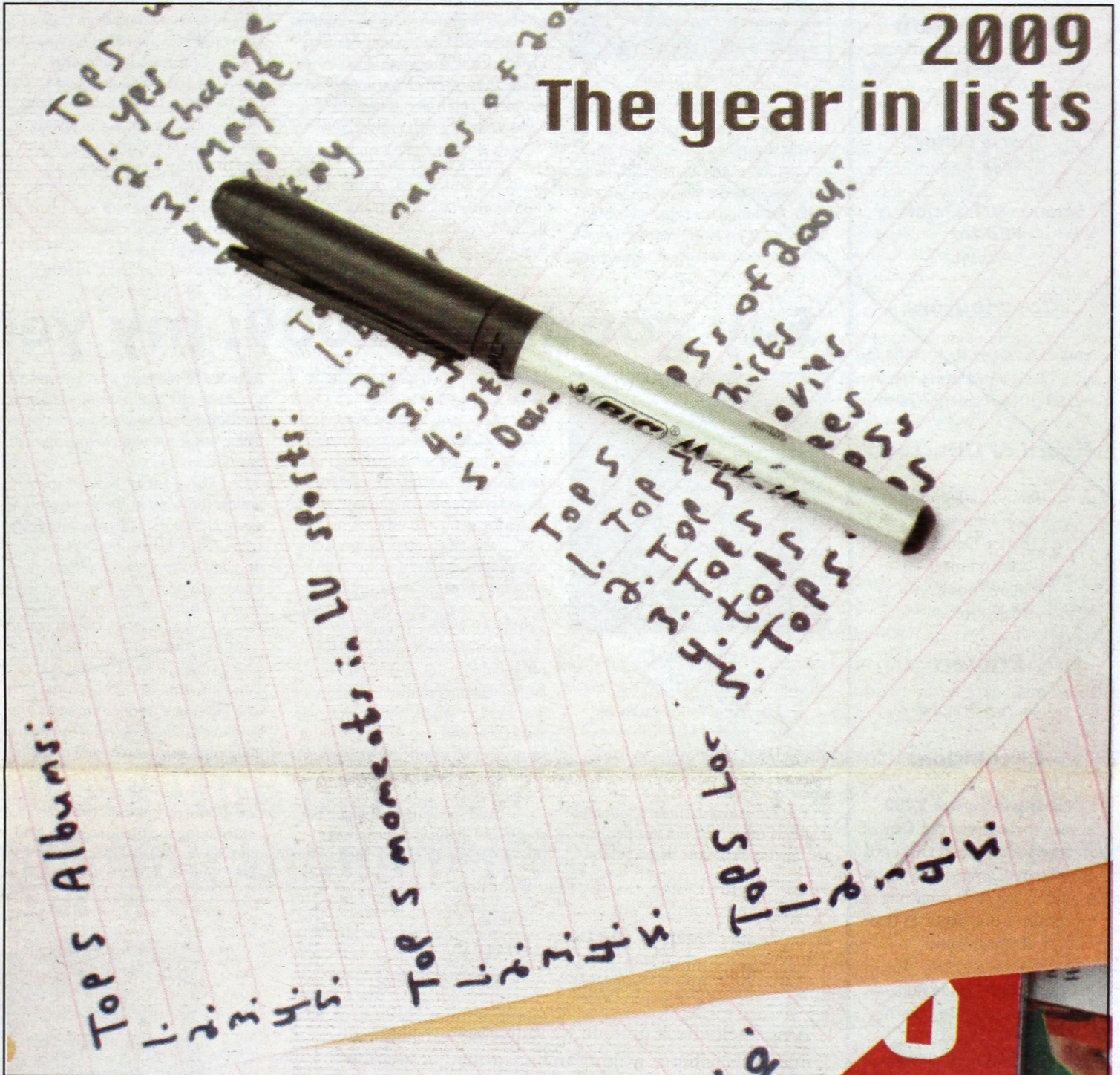
Page 6: Guess Who's Coming to Sudbury! Arts and Entertainment Listings

Page 6: CKLU 96.7 FM Chart



Page 7: Sports, Sports, Sports, Sports!

Page 8: All of your favourite ads!



LU students run their own government

Candace Jazvac
Assistant Editor

Every January, a group of hardworking Laurentian students, journey to Ottawa for Model Parliament along with their Georgian campus counterparts.

Each year students spend a full day in the House of Commons, along with a fun-filled weekend in the nation's capital with their peers. This year's trip proved to be no different, with students returning to Sudbury with stories and memories to share.

"Put 80 or 90 university-aged kids in a hotel and give them enough alcohol to drown an elephant, and you've got a recipe for an unbelievable party," says Samantha Pitzel, leader of the Conservative party says. "We did everything from hit the Senator's game Saturday night to take shots out of cereal bowls because we ran out of shot glasses."

While stories of late night festivities between students might make one question just exactly how much learning goes on over this weekend, all participants put a great deal of work into their bills and



Photo Supplied by Max Merrifield

Laurentian students pose at this year's annual Model Parliament trip in the House of Commons in Ottawa.

speeches, particularly party leaders.

"Being a party leader makes an otherwise hectic end to the first semester even more so because there is a lot of work attached to it," says D'Arcy Gauthier, leader of the Bloc Québécois. "However, that being said, it is definitely worth it while we are sitting in the House of Commons for the day."

Liberal party leader Thomas Sutton promotes the

weekend as a unique experience, saying "Just think about that, we let a bunch of 'rebellious youth' into our most legitimate governing body's chambers and let them have at it."

And while the lead up to the big day in the House of Commons requires a lot of hard work and dedication, Sutton says the Members still find time to have fun amongst all the more serious issues.

"We get a few jokes, the

Harpoonie to replace the five-dollar bill or Subway gate, for example," says Sutton. "But most of the ideas the 'rebellious youth' are trying to put forward are very progressive and contemporary. We pushed for the legalization of cannabis and we put forth good arguments and counter arguments. We fought for the pensions of the RCMP and war vets. If we had enough time we would have debated capital punishment and human rights. Most of all, we had our say on prorogation. Hint: it was not a ringing endorsement."

At the end of the day, Laurentian University's day in the House of Commons did bring about some interesting results. All bills presented by the opposition parties were passed, including one calling for the legalization of marijuana by the Liberal party, while all of the Conservative bills, and the budget, failed, overthrowing the Conservative government. While this might be an ideal scenario for some, or a nightmare for others, it was just another day in House of Commons, where apparently anything can happen when you let those "rebellious youth" take control.

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Include your full name and student number. Please keep articles to a maximum of 700 words. Lambda reserves the right to edit for content considered sexist, racist, homophobic, heterosexist, for length, or legal purposes. Letters of a harassing or slanderous nature will be dealt with by proper authorities.

New year, new assistant editor



Candace Jazvac
Assistant Editor

So, it's 2010. A new year usually involves a great deal of reflection on what we did or did not accomplish in the year prior. We make resolutions on what we would like to work on in the year to come and this year, aside from considering

vegetarianism and vowing to do yoga on a regular basis, I am taking on the role of Assistant Editor here at Lambda.

I'm currently in my third year of study at Laurentian, and just now have I decided to get involved with something on campus. And, to my surprise, I'm actually enjoying it. I spent most of my second year getting involved in far too many off campus activities and I ended up neglecting my academic standing. Needless to say, those errors have since been corrected and I have turned my focus to the wintery wonderland that is Laurentian's campus.

While taking on this position is both an interesting and intimidating task, I am trying to use my trepidation as motivation. I really am excited about what this semester has in store for myself and

for Lambda. I have heard a lot of great things from my peers about the direction in which the paper has gone so far this year and I only hope to help build on this momentum.

We have a new crop of students interested in writing for us (and for all of you), which gives us the chance to cover even more fun and exciting stories that are constantly going on around us as we dash from class to class (and occasionally, the gym).

Our team is constantly changing and expanding, and I am always on the look out for new voices with new ideas. I'm always available to talk about story ideas, and to receive feedback on past issues (whether it be good or bad). What's most important to remember is that this newspaper belongs to every student here at Laurentian; and while we may put it together,

you make it what it is. We cannot continue to grow and improve without your help and feedback.

This Friday, I'll have the chance to meet all of our contributors, old and new. Both Matt and I are looking forward to getting to know our team and their vision for Lambda in 2010. In doing so, we are hoping to coordinate with our team of dedicated volunteers to produce the best campus paper possible.

While I still carry a little anxiety with me as I prepare to start this new adventure, I am passionate about proving to myself that I can, in fact, balance my work load both in and outside of the classroom. So, here's to a hopeful outlook for both the semester and for Lambda.

Say goodbye, 2009: my year in lists



Matt Moskal
Editor-in-Chief

I believe it was modern age soul singer Jamie Lidell who started off his latest album with the lyrics "Another day, another way for me to open up to you."

Those words mean a lot in the Lambda office, and not just because we don't mind a little dance session

late at night when assembling our bi-weekly papers.

See, the noughties are over and we're entering another ridiculously named decade at breakneck speed. Life isn't slowing down let alone making things any easier for us on and off campus.

The news never sleeps, ladies and gentlemen. But you can help keep her sheets clean by submitting content to our paper. We're always looking for writers (in case my previous indications didn't tip you off enough) to submit content to lambda@laurentian.ca. Candace and I will be happy to hear out your story ideas and give you some input from our journalistic experiences to help maximize the potential of Lambda.

And speaking of shaking the sheets and getting all the leftover dirt out, this issue is dedicated to the

memory of the past year. We decided to take it easy and reflect on some of the major developments on the news front, arts scene and campus sports have been.

We've got a couple of guest writers throwing in their two cents about choice musical selections from the past 365 days and a little bit of nostalgia for the year that hoisted us into another ten year block that will be made fun of in future sitcoms.

So pour a drink for our fallen comrade, 2009, who gave us ladies who go gaga, teen idols who don't shower and the lip-biting co-stars who love them, serious unrest in Sudbury's industrial sector and a nail-biting epic on parliament hill (to be continued?).

Our next issue will feature the new school of Lambda volunteers contributing their hearts out to load our paper with headlines. We're

pushing all we can to get past our 8-page slump that's been haunting us since the start of the year.

Thanks to all of those who kept up with us in 2009 and we hope to see your support as we continue to grow in 2010.

Personal Top 5 Moments of 2009:

1. Interviewing infamous singer/songwriter Daniel Johnston
2. Hosting River & Sky Music Festival
3. CBC Rally at City Hall
4. Playing Picnic Fest with my children's band
5. Winning the Townhouse Halloween costume contest

The JND Library

New services to make busy lives easier!

A new self-check unit allows individuals to sign-out materials without waiting in line at the Circulation Desk. The unit is located on 2nd floor near the photocopiers. Please try it out the next time you borrow items from the library. A second unit will soon be installed on the 3rd floor

A new microtext reader which allows users to email, copy, cut and paste the text from the various microtext formats. Two of these machines have been purchased. The first will arrive be ready to use January 14.

Notice: Change in the hours of the library for this semester. After analyzing the use of the library from midnight to 1 am, it was determined that there was insufficient use to have the building open.

Starting January 4, 2010, the opening hours will be as follows:

Monday - Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

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The Learning Clinic: “There Is A Reason Why You Are Reading This Article Today”

Robert Kirwan
Contributor

There are two times of the year when most people are open to “new beginnings” and are actually energized about making changes that will improve their life. One of those times is on your birthday. The other time is during the month of January as you begin a New Year.

That’s right! When you think about it, there are only two opportunities every year when the conditions are right for change; when you have the courage to dream and the motivation to actually “do something” to make those dreams come true.

The following story, which was sent to me by my good friend, Kevin Shanahan, is most fitting in demonstrating the message I want to leave you with today. It is simply called, The Two Wolves.

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, “My son, the battle is between 2 “wolves” inside us all.

One is Evil; It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. The other is Good; It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity,

truth, compassion and faith.”

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: “Which wolf wins?”

The old Cherokee simply replied, “The one you feed.”

And so, now that you have had a chance to recharge your internal batteries during the holiday season, it is time to examine your dreams and aspirations. Have the courage to set your sights high. Then come up with a realistic plan that will allow you to make those dreams come true.

Remember, your birthday and January (New Years) are the two opportunities of the year when the conditions are right for change. Whatever changes are needed for you to be more successful in your studies and in all of your relationships are ready to be made. You just have to take the necessary action to make it happen.

The battle that goes on inside each of us with respect to our dreams is very much like the story of the “Two Wolves”. On the one hand you know what it takes to make your dreams come true. On the other hand you may have fears and doubts about your ability to succeed. The one that will win is the one “you feed”. Make your plan and then make sure you “see that plan through to the end”. Get whatever help you

need. But do not give up! “Feed the right wolf!” Let’s make 2010 a year to remember.

I would like to invite you to visit a web site that I have developed called www.thelearningclinic.ca. There are articles and editorials on that site that may provide you with the motivation and inspiration you need to achieve your full potential. If anyone in your life is holding you back or pulling you in the wrong direction, resist their efforts and make the right choices.

I would also ask you to listen to my radio show every Monday from 5 to 8 p.m. on CKLU 96.7 FM, or listen to the live streaming over the web site at www.cklu.ca. My special guests will share stories with you that will demonstrate just how important it is for you to follow your passions and do what you do best when seeking a career. They come from all walks of life and have dealt with The Two Wolves before. They can give you some advice on how to move forward with your own dreams.

I leave you with the words of Dr. Deepak Chopra who said, “There is a hidden meaning behind all events, and this hidden meaning is serving your own evolution.” There is a reason why you are reading this article today. Go out and discover how it is serving your evolution.

The Writer’s Corner How to write a great introduction.

Meghan Ambrose
Contributor

Some helpful hints to write an essay introduction:

Come up with your overall argument. What exactly are you trying to say and how will you prove that you are right? Every reader will ask, “Why should I care?” If you can describe this in one sentence, you’ve conquered that horribly intimidating thing that every professor seems to be obsessed with: the THESIS.

Say something that grabs your reader’s attention. You want to draw your reader in to your paper and make it interesting for them. No one wants to read a paper that starts out with, “World War I was an important event for almost every country in the world.” But if your paper begins with “World War I was a cataclysmic period in the history of Europe, culminating in the decapitation of an entire generation of men” (to quote Dr. Cavaliere of History), you will have grabbed the attention of your reader.

Give any necessary background information. If you are writing about something that is not common knowledge, provide some background information. Also, when writing about a specific article or book, include its title and author.

Summarize your points. Your introduction has to introduce what you are going to say. Explain in one or two sentences the main points you will make in your essay. Describe how you will prove your thesis statement.

You can even write your introduction after you have written the rest of the paper. Some people know what they want to say, but are not sure how they are going to say it. You’re allowed to write your introduction after you’ve written the main part of your essay...no one will ever know! That way, you know exactly what your essay says, and can easily summarize your argument.

Good luck!

Women’s Centre @ LU Open House

The LU Women’s Centre is now open. Yes, we opened rather late in the semester but are very excited for the Winter Term. This womyn only centre will be having an Open House on January 11, 2009 from 11am-3pm. We welcome you to drop in, look around and have a cup of tea or coffee.

Body Casts Need to GO!

Dear Ladies of Laurentian University,

There is currently a large collection of body casts at the LU Women’s Centre. The Collective has decided that it is time to clean up the place. All body casts will be thrown out on Jan. 12, 2010. Please pick up your body cast before this time. The Women’s Centre is scheduled to be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Thursday and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday. Thank you for your cooperation.

Quantum Dots: the pill, cell phones and tiny snowmen

Matt Strickland
Contributor

Welcome back to Quantum Dots, Lambda’s column on cutting-edge and entertaining advances from the world of science.

It’s okay, I’m on the pill

It’s not like people haven’t been talking about it for decades, but a discovery reported in this month’s Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology Journal suggests we might be nearing on the development of a birth control pill for men. The female oral contraceptive pill (OCP) has been around since the 1960s, but despite trying a number of different compounds and approaches, nobody’s been able to design an equivalent tool for guys. And that’s certainly not for lack of trying. A male oral contraceptive would be an enormous win for any pharmaceutical company that could develop such a product. The birth control pill market is currently estimated at about seven billion dollars per year worldwide.

The recent breakthrough revolves around figuring out how androgens-the testosterone family of hormones-work to control sperm production. Special receptors in the testicles capture androgen as it floats around your body and interprets this as a signal to make more sperm. The researchers used mice to examine what would happen if they knocked out the gene responsible for the androgen receptors in specific cells of the sperm production pathway. In the mice that had the gene taken out of commission, male mice were found to be infertile. The researchers are quick to admit that this was

a success for mice and has yet to be tested in humans, but they are optimistic that this approach will easily translate into something that could help people. Now that the gene is found, the next step will be to produce a drug which can block the specific receptor it codes for. After that, we figure, it’ll be an easy matter of making the pills themselves come in five different variations of extra large, glow in the dark, taste like any number of mixed drinks, and be ribbed for her pleasure.

You can stop yelling into your cell phone


So your crazy Aunt Judy, your flighty roommate, or your less-than-evidence-based professor keeps warning you that cell phones cause cancer? You want to disprove them, but you’re really not sure where to start. Well what if you could look at the national cancer registries for Denmark, Sweden, Finland, and Norway-four of the countries with the highest proportion of cell phone use on Earth-and look for trends? With over 30 years of data, you’d think the widespread adoption of cellular technology would cause some sort of change in the incidence of brain cancer, right? Well that’s exactly what some researchers from the Danish Cancer Society looked into, publishing their results this week in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.


The combined data from the very meticulous cancer registries contains data on over 16 million citizens and over 60,000 cases of brain tumour from 1974 onwards. When the researchers crunched the information, they found no significant spikes or trends in the rates of glioma and meningioma-two

types of brain cancers-over the past 30 years that could be associated with cell phone use. There were minor overall increases in the rates of these cancers, but the change either predates widespread phone use or can more easily be accounted for by better diagnostic technology. Of course, the Danish group points out that changes in the rate cancer rate may take more than 10 years to materialize, but a far more likely explanation of the results is that talking on your cell phone simply does not cause brain cancers. But honestly, is your crazy Aunt Judy actually going to change her mind based on this evidence? Probably not.

Tiny the snowman

In the spirit of the holidays and to show off some of their nanomanipulation skills, scientists at the British National Physical Laboratory have created the world’s smallest-ever snowman. In fact, he’s so tiny that his total height is about half of the diameter of a single human hair. The researchers made the figure out of two tin beads usually intended to help calibrate electron microscopes. They welded these together and added a nose by using platinum deposition. Then, they used a focused ion beam to etch the snowman’s eyes and smile. It was figuratively and literally a small task for the team at the National Physical Laboratory, world leaders in materials and measurement who have already made headlines over the years for building the first atomic clock, weighing the Concord, and designing countless other tools to accurately manipulate and quantify matter.





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www.utoronto.ca/mmpa



Listomania: CLASS OF '09



Frank Chartrand
Vicious Cycle/Local Promoter

Top 5 albums of 2009:

Sunn O))) "Monoliths and Dimensions"

Monoliths & Dimensions is not only a strong contender for the best Sunn O))) album, but it could also be one of the greatest records I've heard in the past few years.

The range of sounds that the band are willing to draw from has increased remarkably in that the album features many different instruments from string and brass ensembles to choirs to harps. It's a treasure trove of an album with each of the titanic four tracks featuring collaborations galore from previous Sunn stalwarts and fresh faces.

As the name implies it's a huge album, the artwork barely fitting the cover is a clue. At times towering and terrifying, Monoliths also has a few surprises up its sleeve in some of the quieter moments. The use of contrast on a Sunn album has never been more exciting.

Regulations "To Be Me"

Regulations bring an outstanding mix of the sounds of late 70's Swedish punk with the early LA scene. At first listen, you may hear the influence of the Germs and early Black Flag, but more structured and complex guitar work and arrangements on this release show that beneath the sneering raw hardcore punk is a more cerebral approach to hardcore song writing based on the 70's Svensk Punk sound. Top notch material from one of the best hardcore punk bands around today. Dark introspective lyrics, with the exception of New Ways which decries the recent election of a conservative government in Sweden "What Happened to My Say?". If you missed these guys at the Townhouse two Decembers ago, I feel really sorry for you. It's not every day we get top notch European hardcore in Northern Ontario.

Alexisonfire "Old Crows/Young Cardinals"

Alexisonfire really have rung the changes on their fourth album; labels have changed, members have married and the band's brash quiet-loud dynamic has been refined into something much smarter, stronger and representative of their skill as musicians. On 'Old Crows / Young Cardinals' songs about go-karting are out and socio-political commentary is in as the band represent their present fears and concerns over eleven questioning tracks that take aim at America ('Sons Of Privilege'), opponents of same-sex marriage ('Accept Crime') and ongoing plight of those damaged by the abrasive economics of modern society ('Midnight Regulations'). In short, a great record and a great use of their platform.

GZA/Genius "Pro Tools"

If you love hip hop with dignity, fire and intelligence, this one is for you. If you like dumb commercial club hip hop, look somewhere else. GZA's flow is laid back but with inner-force and power. Lyrically and musically, this album is refreshing. In a wasteland of electronic voices and cocaine-driven ignorance, RZA and GZA continue to plant the seeds of truth. It's up to the kids to eat the fruit and not the candy.

F*** Buttons "Tarot Sport"

Recorded after a good 18 months spent playing 'Street Horrrsing' to ever-growing crowds, 'Tarot Sport' marks a change, albeit one of increment. Much of what made F*** Buttons' debut great remains: just listen to 'Rough Steez', with its ridged waves of synth, quizzical robot squawks and clacking percussion; or 'The Lisbon Maru', a martial gallop serenaded forth by a fanfare of electro feedback. But what is new here is a fresh sense of momentum. For that, you can largely thank producer Andrew Weatherall. Rockabilly punk, rave veteran and hands-on desk jockey - Primal Scream's 1991 classic 'Screamadelica' was largely his handiwork - Weatherall knows a bit about dancefloor motion. Thankfully, though, F*** Buttons haven't just whacked a donk on it. Rather, songs like 'Surf Solar' feel plotted by a desire to make people move, symphonic epics that combine sky-chasing dramatics with four-to-the-floor rhythms.

The real secret of 'Tarot Sport' lies not in the beats, but in the tunes. These songs are long, not because it makes filling out an album easy, but because these melodies resolve in galaxy-spanning orbits - see 'Olympians', a flowering of synthesizers and feedback crackle that could probably replace 'Chariots Of Fire' in the 'heroic score for slow-motion playback of sporting event' stakes. This cinematic feel is a quality they share with sometime tourmates Mogwai, who soundtracked Zinedine Zidane shoeing a football about a few years back. But whereas Mogwai's more recent work threatens to make a formula familiar, F*** Buttons' fizzling DIY laboratory still has the invention and ingenuity to surprise.

Image
Not Available

Cosmic Dave
Vinyl Guru/Guitar God

Top 5 Albums of 2009:

#5 Phoenix "Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix"

When I first heard this French (from France) band, I thought they were ripping off Vampire Weekend. Over time, every song just lasted and lasted for me in a way that Vampire Weekend hasn't. Somehow, I still feel embarrassed liking them for some reason. There has been a lot of hype. But damn it, I like this record and I don't care. It's got that rare combination of being something you can listen to and not listen to (while you do something else) and enjoy in both cases. I really wish they'd send me the vinyl of this.



#4 Soundtrack Of Our Lives "Communion"

This one is another example of a curious album cover by a band I really didn't know. All the artwork features various photos of yuppie type families; the cover looks like something from that Happiness movie. They are from Sweden. Anyway, I liked the write-up on it so I got one and then it sat there looking weird on the store shelves for about 3 months before I figured "Okay, nobody wants it, so I'll have it," and opened it up for a play. It took 3-4 times before it grabbed me and when it did, it never let go. The thing is 70 plus minutes long and packed with zero filler. It's just song after great song.

#3 You Say Party We Say Die "XXXX"

This album is really good. Better than this bands previous records which were great in a teenage garage band party kind of way. They've morphed. 'XXXX' is good like Blondie used to be good, somehow combining good times dance party disco with the 'f*** you' of punk. Lots of headphone candy here.

#2 The Eels "Hombre Loco"

A customer asked me for an Eels album last year (and nothing was available) and so, when this album came out I ordered a couple of copies. Then it came into CKLU and I got the chance to really listen to it. There's obviously some Neil Young-esque influence in there but there's something else too that really takes this guy to another musical place. The Eels understand that the studio itself is an instrument and so what you end up with are these extremely well crafted songs filtered through a creative production process that sounds now in a way that Neil Young sounded in 1970.



#1 Super Furry Animals "Dark Days/Light Years"

Nobody seemed to notice this album, including me, except maybe in Wales, where the band is from. In fact, it sat in the store for three months before I got so curious that I decided to open the damn thing and find out what it sounded like. It has no text on the jacket at all, just the title and all this crazy artwork. It's what I imagine the Flaming Lips might sound like if they were on ecstasy instead of acid.



Clayton Drake
The Birthday Cakes/M. Lemon/
Meadowlark Five

To listen to some people say that in the year 2009, the idea of an album was almost completely irrelevant. For me, in 2009, this has never been more true. I listened to almost no albums in 2009. In fact, I listened to very little recorded music in 2009. 2009 was the year I got sick of listening to music. So, I have compiled a list of "Top 10 Things I Listened to in 2009".

10. Them Crooked Vultures - Them Crooked Vultures

Even if it sounds a lot like Queens of the Stone Age, it's still the best QOTSA album since Songs For the Deaf. If you didn't like Songs for the Deaf, then I have your gynecologist on hold to find out where you want this second vagina installed.

9. Bands You've Never Heard Of - Live Performances

I spent the summer on tour and listened to lots of bad, and some good live music.

8. My Van - Creaks, Rattles, Groans and Wind Noise

The stereo in my van sounds like a blown out bullhorn. So, I mostly drive on the highways in silence (if silence sounded like a Dash 8 taking off).

7. Grizzly Bear - Veckatimest

I still haven't had an opportunity to fully take in this album. "Two Weeks" is the best song since "Crazy", which was the best song since "Hey Ya", which was the best song since "One More Time".

6. Complete Strangers - Answering Machines and Fax Machines. 2009 was the year I dropped out of school to play music. Now I have no money and had to get a job at a call centre.

5. My Bands - Performing/Practising. 4. Various "Artists" - Commercial Radio.

When driving around the city, commercial radio never lets me down when I want to hear something completely banal (Q92), unintentionally hilarious (Hot 93.5) or LOL RANDOM!!!! (Big Daddy). Which is almost never, but it still sounds better than my iPod.

3. The Inside of My House - Complete Silence.

I've always needed silence to work efficiently, and when it comes to sitting on my computer for 4-8 hours a day booking tours, the situation is no different.

2. Friends, Family and Acquaintances - Conversations.

1. Various Artists - Bastardized Wall of Noise.

Invariably, when there is someone in my van, they want to listen to music instead of nothing or commercial radio. So to placate their ADD-addled minds, I put on my iPod. When combined with the power and fury of my blown-out AC Delco stock stereo, it never fails to make my all-time favourite music sound like a flock of screeching bats.

The top 5 local news stories of '09

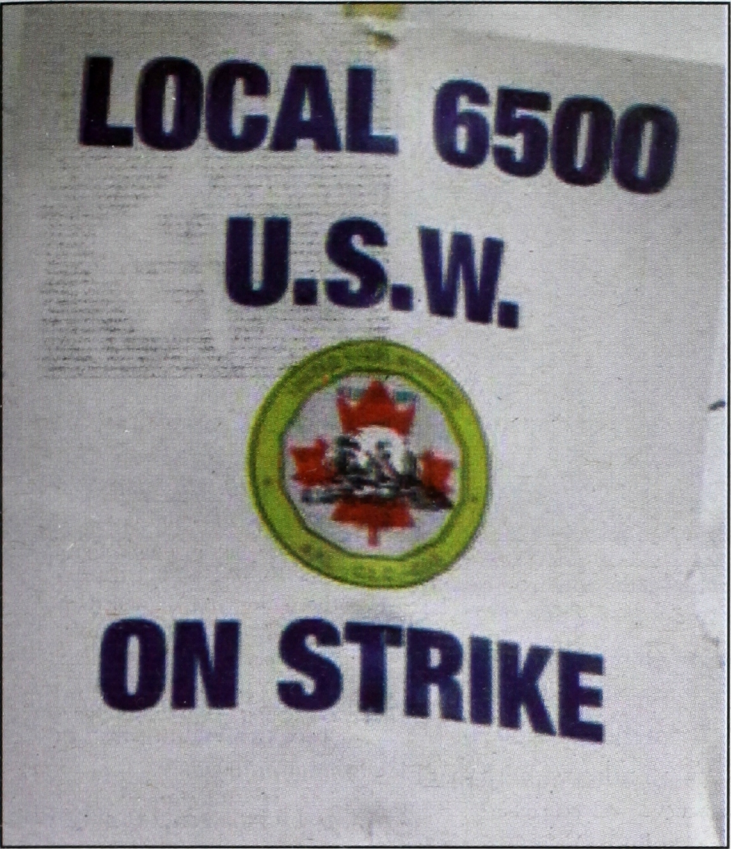


Photo Supplied

Candace Jazvac
Assistant Editor

1. United Steelworkers local 6500 strike

Since July 13, the Steelworkers of local 6500 have been on strike, refusing to accept concessions put forth by Brazilian-owned Vale Inco. While there have been numerous discussions and debates surrounding the strike, Conservative MP Tony Clement's inflammatory comments referring to Sudbury as the "Valley of Death" are among the most memorable of 2009. The strike has recently passed the 6 month milestone, with no end in sight.

2. CBC Radio cuts to Northern Ontario

On March 27, it was announced that both the Sudbury and Thunder Bay English-language CBC Radio stations would lose between 6 and 8 staff members each, creating an uproar in Northern Ontario. On April 5, hundreds of people gathered in Tom Davies Square with local Members of Parliament Glenn Thibault and Claude Gravelle, and many other speakers and musicians, to show their support for the station. In the end 5 and a half positions were lost at the Sudbury station.



3. Dominic Giroux is named as the new President of Laurentian University

In March, Dominic Giroux was appointed the new President of Laurentian University. At 34, Giroux is the youngest university president in Canada. Even though he is younger than most others in his position, he has a great deal of experience in education behind him, making him a desirable recruit for the job. Giroux does his best to keep the lines of communication open between himself and the students at Laurentian by keeping a regular blog, and by using Twitter.

4. Liberal caucus comes to Sudbury.

On August 30, Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff and the rest of his caucus ventured to Sudbury for a three-day retreat. Aside from enjoying controversial \$550-a-plate dinners at the Caruso club, and vowing to take back Northern Ontario in the next election, the Liberals came and went relatively quietly. It was also in Sudbury where Ignatieff made the announcement that his caucus would no longer support Stephen Harper's Conservative government.

5. Three teens killed by in alleged drunk driving accident

On June 21, three teens were killed while walking on the side of Municipal Road 80 in Hanmer by an allegedly impaired driver. The driver went on to drive directly into a house around 1:00 a.m., where he was picked up by police and his parents. The 26-year-old was charged with three counts of impaired driving causing death, and will be appearing in court sometime this year.

The top 5 '09 Laurentian University Athletics moments

Candace Jazvac
Assistant Editor

Five Voyageurs take home OUA Awards

On November 3, Ontario University Athletics announced its 2009 east award winners and all-stars. Men's soccer Voyageurs Scott Cliff, Dan Mazzuca and Dan Keir took home first-team all-stars, along with second-team all-star David Hysen. Also, Coach of the Year went to Laurentian's own Carlo Castrechino.

13 first place finishes for Laurentian swimmers

The Laurentian Aqua Vees captured 13 first place finishes while hosting Waterloo, Wilfred Laurier and York swimmers on Halloween weekend. Kyleigh Committo, Emily Jones, Mike Murray, Jenn Piper, Blair Smith, Brittany Maltais, and Jessica Pothier swam in a variety of competitions to win attain their titles.

LU Golf team ends season well

The men's golf team finished their most successful season in 2009, winning two tournaments. Head coach Paul Schwyer was named the OUA coach of the year for the first time in his career. Also, Matt Bortolotto claimed the titled of first-team OUA all-star. The team placed 7th overall in the OUA championships in Markham, Ontario.

Men's soccer team ousted from playoffs

On October 31, the Voyageurs ended their season with a 4-0 defeat to the University of Toronto. Although the team was missing a few players due to illness, the team came out strong during the first part of the game. Later in the game, a few red cards cost the team even more players; and the team was unable to win the game in order to stay in the playoffs.

Lady Vees Cross-Country season starts off strong

Coach Dick Moss starts off the OUA season confident with early results from his team. Rookie Lindsay Anderson earned a first place finish at the Ramsey Tour, placing herself among those to be watched throughout the season. At the OUA championships in St. Catharines, the Lady Vees placed 7th in the 16-team field.



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Listings

Return of the Tasting at the Laughing Buddha, Jan. 14 at 7 p.m. Tickets \$40 for 8 6 oz of beer and pizza dinner. Must be 19+.

Politics of Art, Jan. 14 at 6 p.m. at Tom Davies Square

Attack in Black with Vicious Cycle and Bunnies in Berlin, Jan. 15 at The Townhouse Tavern. \$10 admission. Must be 19+.

Love Letters: Starring Ian MacLennan and Judi Straughan at Thorneloe, Jan. 16.

Willet, Jan. 16 at the Townhouse Tavern. \$5 admission. Must be 19+.

How Do You Get To Carnegie? Featuring: Robert Hall, Organist - Actors Jim Smith, Dan Thomson, Desmond Maley, William Steadman at St.

Andrew's Place, Jan 16. General Admission: \$10. Students: \$7.50.

"Eyes in Gaza" with Dr. Mads Gilbert at Laurentian University, Arts Building room A-226 (above Tim Horton's) on Jan. 19 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 705-675-1151 ext. 4221

Small is Beautiful : Miniature Piano Pieces by Yoko Hirota, Jan. 22 at 8 p.m. at St. Peter's United Church. General Public with CD: \$25. Students with CD: \$20. General Public without CD: \$15. Students without CD: \$10.

Ladies of the Canyon at the Townhouse Tavern, Jan. 23. \$5 admission.

Celebrities Do Sudbury Satire: Featuring: Chief Frank Elsner and Fire Chief Marc Leduc, CEO Doug Nadorozney, MPP France Gelinas and MP



Photo Supplied

Canadian rockers Attack in Black hit the Townhouse stage with locals Vicious Cycle and Bunnies in Berlin, Jan. 15. Admission is \$10.

Glenn Thibeault, along with Councilors Frances Caldarelli, Ron Dupuis and Janet Gasparini at Sudbury Theatre Centre, Jan. 23 at 8 p.m. Tickets \$30.

CKLU 96.7 FM/ Northern Lights Festival Boreal Presents: Open Stage Featuring Pistol George Warren at The Townhouse Tavern, Jan. 28. \$5 admission. Must be 19+. Sign-up to play at the door.

Jerry Leger and the Situation at the Townhouse Tavern, Jan. 29. \$5 admission. Must be 19+.

Kate Maki CD Release Show featuring Brent Randall at the Townhouse Tavern, Jan. 30. Must be 19+

The tenth annual SGA Charity Ball: And All That Jazz... at the Great Hall, Jan. 30. Tickets \$15.

Jenn Grant, Jason Plumb & the Willing at The Townhouse Tavern, Feb. 5. Tickets \$10.00. Must be 19+

B.A. Johnston, Eye Was An Ion, Baker Muck Rattlers, Nathan Radey at the Townhouse Tavern, Feb. 6 \$5.00. Must be 19+

Cindy Doire, Andrea Ramolo at the Laughing Buddha, Feb. 7. \$10.00.

CKLU 96.7

Top 30 of 2009

For the Week Ending: Tuesday, January 12, 2010

TW	LW	Artist	Title	Label
1	17	The xx	XX	Young Turks
2	5	You Say Party! We Say Die!	XXXX	Paper Bag
3	--	Band of Skulls	Baby Darling Doll Face Honey	Shangri-La
4	11	Devendra Banhart	What Will We Be	Warner
5	4	Phoenix	Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix	Glassnote
6	--	The Slew	100%	Puget Sound
7	3	The Flaming Lips	Embryonic	Warner
8	--	Said The Whale	Islands Disappear	Hidden Pony
9	--	Ian Brown	My Way	Universal
10	7	Soundtrack Of Our Lives	Communion	Yep Roc
11	--	Them Crooked Vultures	Them Crooked Vultures	Interscope
12	--	Purple Hill	Beechnut St.	Self-Released
13	--	Todor Kobakov	Pop Music	88 Calibre Inc
14	--	Built To Spill	There Is No Enemy	Warner
15	1	Super Furry Animals	Dark Days/Light Years	Rough Trade
16	--	The Paperbacks	Lit From Within	Parliament Of Trees
17	--	Tegan And Sara	Sainthood	Sire
18	2	Eels	Hombre Lobo - 12 Songs of Desire	Vagrant
19	15	Ox	Burnout	Weewerk
20	--	Girls	Album	True Panther
21	10	Yo La Tengo	Popular Songs	Matador
22	--	Jay Farrar & Benjamin Gibbard	One Fast Move Or I'm Gone	Atlantic
23	--	Kate Maki	Two Song Wedding	Confusion Unlimited
24	--	Brian Borcherdt	Torches	Hand-Drawn Dracula
25	6	Vetiver	Tight Knit	Sub Pop
26	--	CFCF	Continent	Paper Bag
27	23	The Parkas	You Should Have Killed Us	Saved By Radio
28	30	Language Arts	Where Were You In The Wild?	Self-Released
29	--	Black Mold	Snow Blindness Is Crystal Antz	Flemish Eye
30	22	Share	Slumping In Your Murals	Forward Music Group



Photo Supplied

B.A. Johnston returns to the Townhouse Feb. 6th.

Lockout Post Mortem: Who is paying for the squabble of 2004-05?

Jan Egert
Contributor

The 2004-05 Season is a memorable season to all avid North American hockey fans. Fans were treated to endless nights of skilled and exciting hockey, as some teams finished the season unbeaten, while others finished winless. We were able to witness Jason Spezza's 115 point campaign; Joe Thornton and Rick Nash joining forces to wreak havoc on opponents, while Vincent Lecavalier donned an unfamiliar green and red jersey. Hockey coverage was consistent on sports networks nationwide, with many commentators and analysts trying to decipher the difference between Swedish hockey and Swiss hockey. Ultimately, they were enthusiastic when Jonathan Cheechoo and Zdeno Chara took to the ice, at least, they were able to pronounce their names and share the wealth of knowledge with the television audience. The 2004-05 season of hockey will surely one with lasting memories.

Now, that most of you are scratching your head wondering if you missed a key piece of information, or that you are simply too busy to relive the memories from past hockey, let me remind you, that no, you have not lost your mind, and neither have I. Jason Spezza's epic 115 point campaign was with the Binghamton Senators of the American Hockey League. Thornton and Nash combined for over 100 points in the Swiss Elite League, ultimately winning the title. Vincent Lecavalier has spent his entire career with the Tampa Bay Lightning, yet in the before mentioned season, he was lacing up his skates for Ak-Bars Kazan in the cold arena's of Russia. All 30 teams in the NHL went unbeaten and winless at the same token. The 2004-05 season did not have a single puck drop, no Zamboni rides and certainly fan complaints for the price of beer at the arena.

The 2004-05 NHL Lockout, 310 days of hockey hiatus in 30 rinks across North America, ultimately came to an end on July 13, 2005. One of the key ingredients of the new NHL Collective Bargaining agreement, if not the pasta in the spaghetti dish so to say, is the hard salary cap. Both, a minimum limit and maximum limit establishing how much each team can spend on player salaries was introduced. This cap varies each season, as it relates closely to NHL revenues of the previous season, which of course, are influenced by sponsorship, broadcast contracts, ticket sales, and various other factors. At this point, I will not go into great detail about each factor; however, the most important one to myself and a bulk of you, the readers, will be the effect of ticket sales. I have always wondered who

the major beneficiary was of the NHL Lockout; was it the owners, who are now able to control salaries? Does this mean that NHL superstars are now limited to a smaller slice of the pie? Does the lower expense equal lower ticket prices for a casual fan? Who are the capitalizing players after the outcome of this most recent money war? The owners, who are risking their financial wealth, the players, risking their bodies and prime years, or the fans, risking an average of less than \$50 per ticket?

Changes from 2003-04 to 2008-09

Top 4 Change in Average Ticket Price Change in FCI		
Florida Panthers	77%	43%
Montréal Canadiens	57%	63%
Calgary Flames	55%	52%
Edmonton Oilers	48%	35%
Bottom 4		
St.Louis Blues -30%	-22%	
Detroit Red Wings	-18%	-12%
New York Islanders	-8%	-2%
Ottawa Senators	-7%	-1%

Before beginning to take a closer look at the situation, and introducing arguments for each side, it is important to understand that avoiding stereo-type is nearly impossible. There are 30 franchises, each with a different ownership. Each franchise employs over 20 players, raising the number of NHL players over 600; while millions of fans enter the rink annually to watch their favorite team.

The owners had one key goal in mind: Control. Owners wanted to have some restriction of being able to ice a competitive team and to create parity between the large market teams and the small market franchises. The hard-salary cap is what they strived for, and they achieved.

The players were concerned that after spending the first 20 years of their lives trying to reach their boyhood dream, that they would no longer be fairly compensated. The average player salary in the final season prior to the lockout was listed at over \$ 1,800,000 USD. If the NHLPA and the players were concerned about receiving less compensation, they were certainly not expecting to have the average salary reach an all-time high of over \$ 1,900,000 USD less than three seasons after the lock out.

Lastly, to no surprise, it is time to consider the common fan. A common fan, such as myself, that suffered through the lack of NHL hockey through the 2004-05 season. Before I begin to argue, that it is the fans that suffered most, let us all remember that we were all welcomed back with open arms, symbolized with the "Thank You

Fans!" logo painted at each blue line. I always wondered if I am being thanked as a valuable fan to the NHL product? Am I being thanked for still caring? Or, am I simply being thanked, that after all the squabbles and letdowns, I am still investing in this industry? The real argument at stake is, that for most businesses, one could argue that a franchise has a profit target in mind, be that a dollar value or a percentage. Now, if the most significant expense, player salaries, is prohibited from reaching

new highs, should that not ultimately result in that target being met at a lower revenue level, which in turn, would arguably lead to lower ticket prices? To analyze the change in ticket prices between pre-lockout to current day, the average ticket prices in a rink, as well as the Fan Cost Index are valuable assets. The FCI is a measure that combines four average ticket prices, two small draught beers, four small soft drinks, one parking, two programs and two of the least-expensive adult-size adjustable caps.

Prior to even attempting to understand the possible increase in the Florida Panthers franchise, we can chose to accept the reason for increases in the three Canadian markets. Montreal has iced an entertaining team on most seasons, and the tradition with the Canadiens is a strong factor in its own. Calgary and Edmonton are still benefiting from their respective runs to the Stanley Cup Finals, reasonably explaining the increase in ticket prices. On the other spectrum, the St.Louis Blues and New York Islanders situation can easily be explained by lacking performance. Detroit entered difficult economic times, while the patience of Senators fans has begun to wear off, forcing for lower ticket prices. The interesting situation is the Florida Panthers. The Panthers have played at 19,250 capacity Bank Atlantic Centre since 1998, and have drawn an average over 16,000 fans per game only once since the lockout. They have been in the bottom third of NHL attendance for the past three seasons, yet have raised their ticket average ticket price by \$22.85 per ticket. In summary, the NHL average ticket price and FCI has risen approximately 15% over since the lock out. Lower expenses certainly do not equal lower ticket prices, which was one of key explanations to common fans.

In summary, the franchise owners receive the control they want, the NHL stars still receive their slice of the pie, and the average fan remains to pay ticket prices in excess of the value of the product. Seems to me it is pretty obvious who pulled the short straw once again.

Hosts have strong showing at OUA curling sectionals

Martin Rourke
Athletic Marketing and Media
Relations Officer

The OUA east curling sectionals took place at the Idylwyld Golf and Country Club in Sudbury, Ontario on January 9th and 10th. The University of Toronto, Trent and Queen's Universities made the trek to Sudbury to compete in a round robin with host Laurentian.

It would be the hosts who had the most success on the weekend, posting a 2-1 record in both the men's and women's side of the competition. The record was good enough to put the Lady Vees on top of the standings, holding the tie-breaker with the head to head win over Trent, also 2-1. Rounding out the women's side is Queen's and U of T who both posted 1-2 records.

On the Voyageurs side of things their extra end loss to Queen's was their sole blemish, but would place them in second as the Gaels matched them with a 2-1 record. Trent and U of T would manage just one win in the brief three game

round robin. There were three games that needed an extra end to finish, as the U of T women beat Laurentian on Saturday night, then fell to Trent on Sunday morning in the extra frame. The Queen's Gaels men would steal a point in the ninth end against the Voyageurs also on Sunday morning.

The near impossible and highly improbable happened the Queen's - Trent match-up. In the first end of play two rocks sat virtually frozen to each other, each covering a side of the pin. After much discussion it was determined a tie measure and a blank end.

All of the OUA east teams will next compete at the OUA crossover event hosted by Trent in Peterborough, Ontario on February 6th and 7th. The OUA east teams will play a hectic five games in two days against their foes from the OUA west to complete the OUA wide round robin. The top four teams in both the men's and women's will advance to the OUA championships, this year to be held in Waterloo, Ontario on February 13th and 14th.

Talented young basketball player joins Lady Vees

Martin Rourke
Athletic Marketing and Media
Relations Officer

The Laurentian Lady Vees basketball team and head coach Mike Clarke are pleased to announce that Sudbury native and Lockerby Composite School standout Erin Simpson has committed to Laurentian starting in the fall of 2010.

Simpson, a 5-8 point guard already has experience and also many accolades. She was the Sudbury Lakers (OBA) MVP in 2008 and a member of the JDP all-star team in 2009. A two time participant at OFSSA AAA basketball, Simpson was named junior female athlete of the year at Lockerby in 2007-08 along with basketball MVP. The next year she led the SDSSAA in scoring and was named Sophie Manarin athlete of the year for dedication to sport. She was also a cross country MVP in 2008-08.

Laurentian was the choice of Simpson because of the time she has already spent working with Clarke and the Lady Vees. She participated in the VBA program run by Clarke and the Lady Vees.

"My skill level and basketball IQ improved so much working in this program and I really got know Mike's coaching style and developed a great respect for him. I knew I wanted to play for him one day," said Simpson.

"I've been fortunate to have been invited to scrimmage with the team in the off season. This team works great together; they are very

competitive but still very supportive of one another." Simpson has been involved in sports since she was very young, starting with soccer and baseball and getting into basketball in grade six, and finally more competitively in grade seven and eight. "I love the fast pace and competitiveness of the game. I love how there are so many challenging ways to push yourself to be better." "I am extremely happy that Erin has chosen Laurentian. I have

worked closely with her for a few years now and have a great deal of respect for her talent and work ethic," said Clarke. "Erin and I are alike in that we share a true passion

for the game. She eats, sleeps and breathes the game and that passion and dedication will spill over to her teammates. She has the chance to be a real difference maker for our program and I am looking forward to the chance to start coaching her."

Simpson will continue to compete in OBA club ball for the Sudbury Selects on a team coached by Lady Vees assistant coach Scott MacWhirter. She will join her new team in the blue and gold in September of 2010. Her future teammates will continue the second half of their season when the host the RMC Paladins and Queen's Gaels on Friday, January 15 and Saturday, January 16 in the Ben Avery Gym starting at 6 p.m. For all Lady Vees news stay tuned to www.luvoyageurs.com.

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